The question of constructing a dam at Olakkaruvi requires investigation.

The points relating to the construction of roads will be referred to the Road Board.

The requests relating to the improvements to the Rajakkamangalam allom and the Village Panchayat Regulation will be considered.]

71' Needs of the Colachel town.

MR. MATEVAN PILLAI NEELAKANTA PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Colachel*) represented the need for a pier at Colachel port which had more shipping facilities than any other port in Travancore as ships could safely anchor at about a distance of 450 feet from the shore. The importance and business of the port was increasing year by year. As a result of the representation made at the 23rd Session, the Government sanctioned the construction of a pier and work was begun in 1103. But it was subsequently stopped. It should be resumed and completed at an early date. A pier was an absolute necessity for the local traders.

The need for a Munsiffs' Court at Colachel had been represented on more occasions than one. The *pakuthies* of Manavalakurichi, Kadiyapattanam, Colachel, Midalam, Kizhmidalam and Kappiyara were included in the jurisdiction of the Padmanabhapuram Munsiff's Courts and a large number of cases were being filed from those *pakuthies*. The inhabitants of those places were put to much hardship on account of the long distance of 8 or 9 miles they had to travel for conducting their cases. Colachel was also one of the chief towns of the State. A Munsiff's court should therefore be opened there without further delay.

A Magistrate's court should also be established there. There was formerly a court there but it was subsequently abolished. The need had been represented at the 23rd session of the Assembly, but no action was taken on the representation.

A road should be opened along the sea-coast between Colachel and Tengapattanam. The need had already been represented at the 23rd session. The distance by road between the two places was 15 miles and people were put to much inconvenience in taking articles of merchandise to and fro. Owing to want of easy access, the people were not getting adequate prices for fish, coir, cocoanut fibre, and other articles produced in the coast villages. There was already a road from Colachel to Kurumbana. It would be enough if it was extended to Tengapattanam. The distance would be only 4 miles.

The beach at Colachel was very congested and thickly populated. The chief occupation of the people being fishing, they could not shift their residence to the interior. They were living in thatched huts huddled together and their sanitation was anything but satisfactory. The place being included within port limits, the municipality had no control over them and could not therefore attend to their sanitation. The Municipal Council had a scheme of building houses on sanitary principles for the use of the fisher-folk and then recovering the cost.

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But the Council had not the funds to carry out the scheme. The Government should therefore take up the scheme and work it out. The beach villages should also be included within municipal limits so that the Council might arrange for their proper sanitation.

Most of the roads in the town were in disrepair and their condition was becoming worse on account of the increased motor traffic. All the roads in the town should therefore be improved and metalled.

The Colachel dispensary was housed in a very small building quite unfit for the purpose. The in-patients were accommodated in a thatched shed. A new building with in-patient wards should therefore be put up for housing the dispensary, which should also be converted into a hospital.

Lastly, the member requested that all liquor shops might be removed from within municipal limits.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Nilakanta Pillai, as regards your first point, the report of the Chief Engineer is that the nature of the sea level is such that wooden groynes in the Colachel Port would be unsuitable and that nothing but concrete groynes as in Madras would serve the purpose. It is therefore a matter which requires serious thought and all that I can say is that your suggestion will be considered.

As regards the establishment of a Munsiff's Court, it will be considered by the Law's Delays Officer who will be shortly appointed.

With regard to the establishment of a Magistrate's Court, you yourself made a similar representation at the 23rd session and I understand that the reply given then was to the effect that Government did not find the necessity for this in view of the neighbouring court at Eraniel.

Your next point will be referred to the Road Board. I may say however that, according to the Chief Engineer, the alignment of the road requires careful investigation and this will be conducted soon.

With regard to the sanitation of the beach streets, you may remember that this matter was referred to the Sanitary Commissioner. The difficulty arises with regard to the explanation of the word 'street'. This land may come within the meaning of the term 'street' as defined in Section 3 (31) of the Municipal Regulation and the Municipality can exercise all the powers conferred upon it by the Regulation in respect of streets. Therefore the formal vesting of the area in the Municipality does not seem to be necessary.

As regards the metalling of roads in municipal limits, strictly speaking, it is a work which the Municipality should attend to. But the P. W. D. has taken up the work and the Chief Engineer says that some portions have already been metalled.

You next want the dispensary at Colachel to be converted into a hospital. The Administrative Board, Medical Services, does not agree with your suggestions. As for the building, Government are also

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aware that the present dispensary building is not in good condition and some provision will be made in the next year's budget towards the construction of a new building.

As for the removal of arrack and toddy shops from within the municipal limits, you know that an experiment is being tried in Changanacherry, the result of which is being watched.

72. Needs of the Vilavankod taluk.

MR. R. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod taluk*) urged the need for abolishing the tolls levied in the Padannalumud market. The Dewan Peishkar had recommended the abolition of tolls, but it would appear that the Land Revenue Commissioner had reported to the Government that the market was not an evening market but a day market and that therefore the tolls should not be abolished. A local inspection by the Dewan would convince him of the real nature of the market.

The next request was for the abolition of the western P. W. D. toll-gate at Kuzhithurai. As a result of the representation made on the subject at the 25th Session of the Assembly, the Government had decided to shift the Kuzhithura toll-gate to the 22nd milestone of the M. S. road with effect from the 1st Chingam 1106. The member pointed out that what was wanted was either the shifting of the toll-gate to the frontier of the taluk or the abolition of the western toll-gate. The decision of the Government did not make it clear whether the two toll-gates were to continue or not. If the two gates were to be continued, the grievances of the people would not be redressed. If, however, the main (eastern) gate was shifted to the 22nd milestone, *i. e.* outside the Kuzhithura municipal limits, that municipality would strive to establish a toll-gate within the municipal limits and then the travelling public would have to pay two tolls. In the circumstances, the main toll-gate should be removed, if at all, to the frontier of the taluk preferably to Injivila between the 19th and 20th mile stones but not to the 22nd milestone and the western toll-gate abolished.

Another urgent need of the inhabitants of Vilavankod was the appointment of a qualified doctor in the grant-in-aid Mission Hospital at Martandam. It was the subject matter of several representations at successive sessions of the Assembly. On the strength of those representations, the Government made an enquiry and said that the medical officer there was duly qualified, while as a matter of fact he was not. There was abundant proof for this. There was however an experienced medical officer, though not duly qualified, for a very short period, but he was soon transferred. The Hospital authorities should therefore be asked to appoint a duly qualified doctor and, if that request was not complied with, the Government grant should be stopped.

The Arumana dispensary was affording medical relief to a large number of people and the single medical officer there could not cope with the increased volume of work. An assistant medical officer should therefore be appointed in that institution and it should be converted into a Hospital.

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